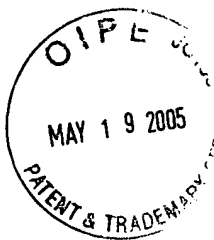


JENKINS
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DFW

May 17, 2005

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Gayle W. Chaney
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Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Re: U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/763,439 for
LIGATING CLIP WITH INTEGRAL TISSUE-SECURING
MECHANISM
Our File No. 1439/11

Sir:

Please find enclosed the following:

1. Response to Restriction Requirement (9 pages); and
2. A return-receipt postcard to be returned to our offices with the U.S. Patent and Trademark filing stamp thereon.

Please contact our offices if there are any questions.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees associated with the filing of this correspondence to Deposit Account No. 50-0426.

Respectfully submitted,

JENKINS, WILSON & TAYLOR, P.A.

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REJ/gwc
Enclosures
Customer No: 25297

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PATENT



Gayle W. Chaney
Gayle W. Chaney
Date of Signature 5/17/05

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Gallagher et al.

Group Art Unit: 3731

Serial No.: 10/763,439

Examiner: Darwin P. Erez

Filed: January 23, 2004

Docket No.: 1439/11

Confirmation No.: 6832

For: LIGATING CLIP WITH INTEGRAL TISSUE-SECURING MECHANISM

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION/ELECTION REQUIREMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This is responsive to the Office Action - Restriction/Election Requirement dated April 29, 2005, for which a shortened statutory period for reply expires on May 29, 2005. Favorable consideration is respectfully requested in view of the following Amendments, Election and Remarks.